(a) whether it is a fact that the quality of unani medicines purchased by CGHS unani store is deteriorating for the last three years; and

(b) what are the reasons for not purchasing the medicines from M/s Hamdard for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No. Sir.

(b) M/s Hamdard had not applied for registration of the firm for the last three years which is a pre-condition for tenders, etc. Hence, the question of purchase of medicines from the said firm does not arise.

CGHS benefits for serving spouse

1729. SHRI RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that both serving husband and wife are entitled to avail of medical facilities on the same CGHS identity card;

(b) whether the facility continues even after retirement of one of them and becoming a pensioner;

(c) if so, the relevant rules in this regard; and

(d) whether both the retired employees are entitled for such facility on the same CGHS card?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Under the CGHS rules, the husband/wife who retires from the Central Government service can have the option for inclusion of the name of his/her spouse who is in service in his/her CGHS card.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Health Policy

1730. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any new health policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) In view of the significant epidemiological and demographic changes in the country since 1983, when the first National Health Policy was formulated, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has undertaken an exercise to revise the National Health Policy.

Upgradation of CGHS Units of ISM&H

1731. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since formulated the expansion and development programme of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy under CGHS, by opening of Ayurvedic, Homoeopathic and Unani units in Delhi in the year 2000-2001 and to upgrade the standard of present CGHS units of ISM&H, by augmentation of para-medical staff therein;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether financial resources and manpower are available for the purpose; and

(d) whether it is a fact that CGHS authorities are not providing funds to ISM&H for its expansion and development since long; if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) No, Sir. At present there is no proposal for expansion of ISM&H during the year 2000-2001 since the Ministry of Finance has not agreed to the creation of new posts for ISM&H until the SIU Study has been conducted.

However, there are proposals to open the following dispensaries/ Units of ISM&H during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(A) One Ayurvedic Unit each at Faridabad, Netaji Nagar, Noida under Delhi; Jabalpur, Kanpur, Madras, Guwahati, Trivandrum, Bombay and Calcutta.